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TIMOTHY BRADLEY AND KATE O'DELL SENTENCED
TO MORE THAN FIVE YEARS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND FRAUD CRIMES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – R. Alexander Acosta, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division, Tom Colantuono, United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, FBI Special Agent in Charge Kenneth Kaiser, and Litchfield Police Chief Thomas F. Iverson, Jr., today announced a sentencing under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Timothy H. Bradley and Kathleen (Kate) O'Dell, both of Litchfield, New Hampshire were sentenced to five years and ten months in federal prison, after being convicted by a jury last August on charges of forced labor, human trafficking, document servitude, wire fraud, and conspiracy.

“It is difficult even to begin to capture the gravity and moral depravity of these offenses,” said R. Alexander Acosta, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division. “Luring foreigners to our shores with false promises, impressing them into labor, and withholding even the most basic of services is nothing short of modern day slavery. We are extremely pleased that Judge DiClerico saw fit to impose a sentence commensurate with the nature of this crime.”

Bradley and O'Dell recruited four Jamaican citizens in Jamaica, and brought them to New Hampshire in 2000 and 2001 to work for Bradley Tree Service, Bradley's tree cutting business. They threatened two of these men with serious harm and physical restraint in coercing labor and services; they confiscated the victims' passports to keep them from fleeing; and they severely restricted the victims' freedom of travel, keeping them in the state. Bradley and O'Dell physically assaulted one of the men and set a dog on him as he fled; they denied one of the men medical care when he was injured on the job; and they forced the men to live in a tool shed and a trailer without adequate heating or plumbing, charging \$50 per week for rent.

A federal jury convicted Bradley and O'Dell on one count of conspiracy to commit forced labor, two counts of forced labor, two counts of trafficking into forced labor, two counts of document servitude, and eleven counts of wire fraud. In addition to their prison terms, the Court also sentenced the 44-year-old Bradley and 49-year-old O'Dell to pay restitution to the victims totaling \$13,052 and ordered Bradley to pay a \$12,500 fine.

United States Attorney Tom Colantuono said, “Those who violate individuals’ civil rights do violence to our Constitution and erode the fundamental freedoms on which our democracy is based. While I know that these sentences cannot restore the basic human freedoms that the defendants so callously took from the victims, they do signify our unwavering commitment to defend individuals’ civil rights. None of those rights is more basic than the self-evident truth that all men are created equal.”

This case was prosecuted under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Since its enactment, the Administration, including the Department of Justice and the United States Attorneys Offices, have dedicated substantial resources and efforts to addressing the global problem of human trafficking. Since January 2001, federal prosecutors have convicted 111 human traffickers in 36 cases, including 79 traffickers convicted of sex trafficking.

These convictions were the result of a 17-month investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Litchfield Police Department, and the Diplomatic Security Service of the United States Department of State. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman and Trial Attorney Anne Milgram of the Civil Rights Division’s Criminal Section.